

Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 TOKYO 04373 171014Z
ACTION EA-12

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 INT-05 EB-08 TRSE-00 DOE-11
SOE-02 CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 PA-01
USIA-06 SP-02 SS-15 NSC-05 COME-00 STR-07 H-01
/098 W

-----022818 172225Z /66

R 170936Z MAR 78
FM AMEMBASSY TOKYO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6261
INFO AMCONSUL HONG KONG
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
USLO PEKING
AMEMBASSY TAIPEI

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE TOKYO 04373

DEPT PASS BUREAU OF MINES

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: EEWT, EMIN, ENRG, JA, UR
SUBJECT: SOVIETS AGREE TO REDUCE COKING COAL EXPORTS TO
JAPAN

REF: MOSCOW 1365

1. INDUSTRY SOURCES HAVE CONFIRMED SUBSTANCE OF SEVERAL
PUBLISHED ACCOUNTS OF OUTCOME OF JUST CONCLUDED SOVIET-
JAPAN NEGOTIATIONS TO LOWER IMPORTS OF SOVIET COKING
COAL DURING JFY 1978 (APRIL 1, 1978 TO MARCH 31, 1979).
ACCORDING TO REPORTS, TALKS CONCLUDED MARCH 14, AFTER
APPEARING TO BE DEADLOCKED.

2. VOLUME WAS SET AT TWO MILLION TONS, DOWN 20 PERCENT
FROM JFY 1977'S 2.5 MILLION TONS. (TO THIS WILL BE
ADDED 180,000 TONS CARRIED OVER FROM THE CURRENT FISCAL
LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 TOKYO 04373 171014Z

YEAR.) PRICES WERE LOWERED BY \$1 PER TON TO \$51 PER TON
FOR KUZNETSKIY KJ14 AND K10, BUT KEPT AT PRESENT LEVELS
FOR KUZNETSKIY J26 (\$47), AND SHAKHTERSKIY (\$36.80). ALL
PRICES FOB.

3. JAPANESE PRESS HAS REPORTED CONSIDERABLE NERVOUSNESS
IN STEEL INDUSTRY OVER ATTEMPTS TO NEGOTIATE REDUCED

LEVELS WITH THE SOVIET TEAM. SOME REPORTS MENTIONED THAT A 40 PERCENT REDUCTION HAD BEEN SUGGESTED INFORMALLY LAST FALL, BUT THAT JAPAN WOULD OPEN THE MARCH 6 TOKYO NEGOTIATIONS BY ASKING FOR 30 PERCENT. THE NERVOUSNESS STEMMED NOT ONLY FROM FEARS THAT TOO TOUGH A STAND MIGHT JEOPARDIZE CURRENT NEGOTIATIONS OVER A \$100 MILLION CONTRACT FOR SALE TO SOVIETS OF LARGE DIAMETER PIPE, BUT ALSO IN THE CONTEXT OF ANNOUNCED INCREASED IMPORTS IN COKING COAL FROM THE PRC UNDER THE FEBRUARY 16 LONG TERM ARRANGEMENT (LTA).

4. COMMENT. SOME REDUCTION WAS ALMOST INEVITABLE IN THE CONTEXT OF GENERAL JAPANESE EFFORTS TO NEGOTIATE DOWN ITS COKING COAL IMPORTS FROM ALL MAJOR SUPPLIERS. EMBASSY IS PREPARING REVIEW OF THE COKING COAL SITUATION IN JAPAN AS WE SEE IT FROM HERE. IT IS INTERESTING TO NOTE THAT THE TWO MILLION TONS FIGURE AGREED UPON WITH THE SOVIETS MATCHES THE AMOUNT OF COKING COAL JAPAN PROMISED TO IMPORT FROM THE PRC IN 1982 UNDER THE LTA. MANSFIELD

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: COAL, EXPORTS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 17 mar 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978TOKYO04373
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780120-0055
Format: TEL
From: TOKYO
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780352/aaaabsq.tel
Line Count: 81
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: f5a77cc4-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION EA
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 78 MOSCOW 1365
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 05 may 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 3285003
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: SOVIETS AGREE TO REDUCE COKING COAL EXPORTS TO JAPAN
TAGS: EEWT, EMIN, ENRG, JA, UR
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/f5a77cc4-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014